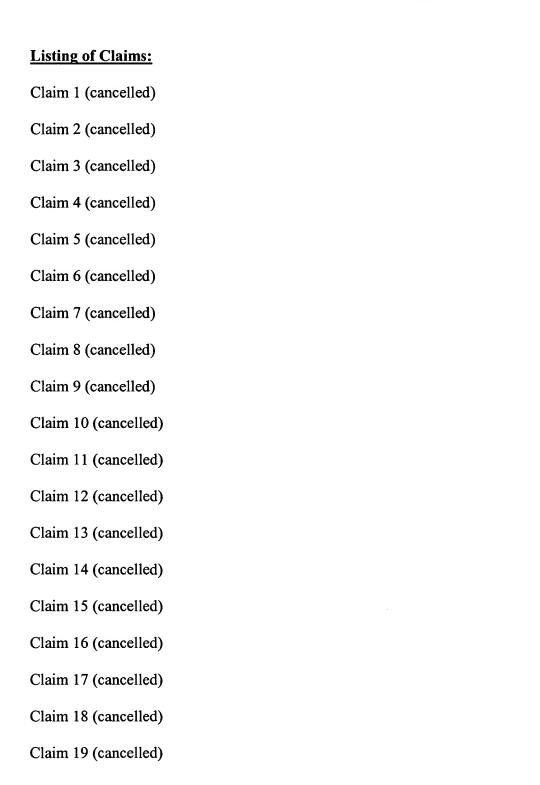
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:



Appln. No. 09/890,715 Amdt. dated August 6, 2003 Reply to Office action of May 7, 2003

Claim 20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (cancelled)

Claim 25 (cancelled)

Claim 26 (cancelled)

Claim 27 (currently amended): An element according to claim 26, A cutting-nozzle element for severing or removing a biological structure when the cutting-nozzle element is fed with a fluid under pressure, comprising a hollow cutting-nozzle body having an axis, the hollow cutting-nozzle body receives a shut-off element which is movable within the hollow cutting-nozzle body in a reciprocating manner along the axis wherein the hollow cutting-nozzle body defines with the shut-off element an annular space, at least one nozzle extending radially with respect to the axis and communicating with the annular space, and further including means for reciprocating the shut-off element to provide a pulsed feed of fluid under pressure to the at least one radial nozzle.

Claim 28 (previously presented): An element according to claim 27, wherein the means for reciprocating comprises (1) a biasing means for moving the shut-off element in a first direction and (2) means for selectively moving the shut-off element in a second direction opposite the first direction for feeding fluid under pressure in a pulsed manner to the annular space.

Claim 29 (currently amended): An element according to claim 28, wherein the means for

selectively feeding comprises a variable gap formed between a surface of the shut off element and an inner wall of the cutting-nozzle element body.

Claim 30 (currently amended): An element according to claim 29, wherein the means for selectively moving the shut-off element in the second direction comprises a third motor means which receives fluid under pressure via the variable gap.

Claim 31 (currently amended): An element according to claim 26 27, wherein the shut-off element has an internal passage for removing the fluid and biological structure.

Claim 32 (previously presented): An element according to claim 30, wherein the fluid motor means comprises a shoulder on the shut-off element which has a first surface which is acted on by the fluid under pressure.

Claim 33 (previously presented): An element according to claim 32, wherein the shoulder has a second surface which is acted on by the biasing means in opposition to the first surface.